

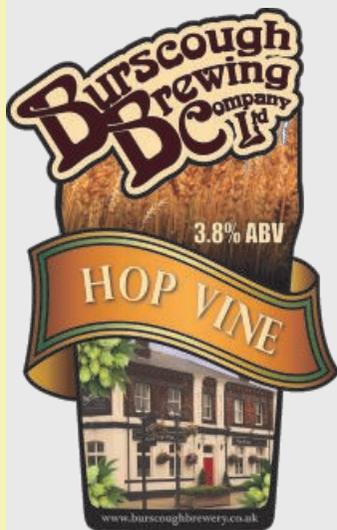
Hereford HOPVINE

The Newsletter of the Herefordshire Branch of CAMRA

Issue No 54

Summer 2014

Free



SUMMER PUB OF THE SEASON: The Barons Cross Inn

HOPVINE is just one of over 250 different beers, ciders and perries, which will make up more than 18,000 pints in this summer's bumper tenth-anniversary **BEER ON THE WYE** festival 11th to 13th July.

PubCo Closures Scandal



Will we be seeing less of this as the Government finally acts on Pubco Reform?

whatpub.com

Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs

Have you used the UK's best pub website yet?

Full details inside.

TENTH BEER ON THE WYE DETAILS
PUBCO REFORM - JOB DONE (ALMOST!)
THE RISE OF THE MICRO-PUB
A GRAND DAY OUT IN SALOP
LATEST BEER, CIDER & PUB NEWS
LOCAL BEER AND CIDER FESTIVALS



CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

WYE'S WORDS No. 3



“ MAKE HPA WHILE ”
THE SUN SHINES

HPA is a delightful pale ale that gives real-ale lovers a taste that seems especially good on a sunny day. Carefully made using Celeia and locally grown Target hops, HPA is smooth on the palate and boasts a citrus hop aroma leading to a balanced bitter finish. **4.0% ABV**

 [facebook.com/wyevalleybrewery](https://www.facebook.com/wyevalleybrewery)  [@wyevalleybrew](https://twitter.com/wyevalleybrew)
www.WyeValleyBrewery.co.uk



SHARE OUR TASTE FOR REAL LIFE

BEER ON THE WYE X: HEREFORD BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 11th July to SUNDAY 13th July in a marquee at Hereford Rowing Club, Greyfriars Avenue, Hereford, HR4 0BE.

'X' MARKS THE SPOT:- WE'RE BACK FOR A TENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL DOWN BY THE RIVER

Last year over 6,000 people joined in the festival fun over the three days of Beer on the Wye, and if the weather is half as good this year, then we're in for a bumper tenth anniversary festival – that's what the 'X' in the title stands for - tenth.

DRINK....

We can't wait to get our giant big top-style marquee up and running again on the banks of the River Wye, right in the heart of Hereford. And it isn't just the great riverside location that makes the festival so enjoyable, over the years it has deservedly gained a reputation for being "the friendly festival down by the river". Every year it attracts a mixed crowd from the length and breadth of the UK.

It isn't just visitors who come from afar, so do many of the over 100 cask beers – with a real gamut of beer styles and strengths featuring on a single 120 foot-long beer bar. On top of this sea of beer we will be offering the largest collection of draught Herefordshire ciders and perries ever assembled under one roof (over 100) and, for the first time, we will be additionally showcas-



A calm moment at the cider bar

ing some of the better ciders from outside the county. The ever-popular Herefordshire Brewers' Bar and Foreign Beer Bar also return to complete the drinks picture.

We sell all the beers, ciders and perries in third-pint measures, as well as the usual halves and pints. This means you can try more of them without having to go completely mad. Moreover, with every drink at the festival being properly chilled, your beer, cider or perry is served in perfect condition every time - ideal for a fine day down by the river. And for those with families, or those who need to drive, we will again be selling a range of sensibly-priced soft drinks, including our ever-popular festival fruit punch (made to a secret Victorian recipe).

...EAT....

But Beer on the Wye isn't just about beer, cider and perry. This year we aim to offer our best food selection ever – all of it there to help soak up the alcohol. Affordable hot, cold (and vegetarian) food will be available at all times, and will include: fish and chips; hot dogs; burgers; pizza; Polynesian baguettes and a full hog roast (on the Friday and Saturday). Monkland Cheeses will be running a cheese stand, and there will be ice cream and sweets for the kids and younger at heart. Tyrells crisps complete the food scene nicely.

...AND BE MERRY (WITH SEVEN LIVE BANDS!)

Beer on the Wye is about having fun, so once more we've lined up a great selection of live

LIVE MUSIC

Friday

6pm Whiskey River Boys

Acoustic Americana, Folk, Country

7.30pm Albino Frogs *Funk, Blues, Jazz, Soul*

9.30pm Soul Preachers

Soulful Reggae, Dance, Funk

Saturday

3pm Matt Woosey *Acoustic Folk, Blues*

5.30pm The Idle Hands *Blues Rock*

7:30pm The Rooters *Classic Rock*

9.30pm AKA Skaface *Ska, Reggae, Dub*

Sunday

2pm The Naomi Payne Hotsy Totsy Band

Swing Jazz

BEER ON THE WYE

bands – seven in all across the festival. These will certainly get the marquee rocking on the Saturday and Friday evenings, as well as set the scene for our Family Fun day on the Sunday. The full list of bands (and approximate timings) is set out in the box below.

There will also be a number of trade stands; a charity tombola, and a number of special offers on beer and cider books, pub guides and general beer paraphernalia – as well as a superb offer on CAMRA membership.

AND IT'S GOOD FOR FAMILIES TOO!

It is realised that it isn't always easy to get along to Beer on the Wye when you have demanding family commitments, so we enjoy making the Sunday of the festival our Family Fun Day. Geared to the little people, it's a very relaxed session that is becoming increasingly popular. Appropriate live entertainment and other activities, gives the parents the opportunity to still enjoy the riverside atmosphere and beers and ciders of Beer on the Wye.

Well-behaved children are welcome, but are only admitted on the basis that they are accompanied and supervised AT ALL TIMES by a paying adult. On Friday and Saturday last admission for children is 6pm and they are not permitted on site after 9pm. For younger children it is recommended you come along to the Sunday Family Fun Day.

FESTIVAL BASICS – WHEN & HOW MUCH!

Festival times and entry charges are set out in the box below:

If you want to avoid the queues, then the great news is that we are offering on-the-door express entry packages to get into the festival. It covers a single admission; a commemorative festival pint or half-pint glass and some beer/cider tokens to get you on your way! They cost either £10 or £15 and are highly recommended if you

OPENING TIMES AND ADMISSION

Friday 11th July	2 - 5pm	£3
	5 - 11pm	£5
Saturday 12th July	12noon - 5pm	£4
	5 - 11pm	£5
Sunday 13th July	12noon - 5pm	£1

want to get in quick. Entry comes with a FREE festival programme, which lists all the beers, ciders and perries available.



Before you can buy any alcoholic drink at the festival, you will need a commemorative festival glass: these come in halves and pints (both also marked with third measures) and cost just £2 on the door. Should you not wish to keep your glass as a memento you can return it for a refund as you leave the festival. Whilst you are welcome to bring your own food and snacks,

only alcoholic drinks PURCHASED AT THE BEER ON THE WYE may be consumed at the festival.

Alcoholic drinks will not be sold to those aged under 18. You may be asked to provide approved proof of age on the door and/or at the bar if you look young enough to be under 21 (*Challenge 21*).

CAMRA members get an additional £2 in beer tokens, (£1 on Sunday) in lieu of discount.

JOIN CAMRA at this festival and get TWO FREE PINTS (three for joint membership). CAMRA membership gives you the opportunity to buy a range of heavily-discounted books at the festival, including the best-selling national CAMRA *Good Beer Guide* and the third edition of our award-winning *Herefordshire Pubs Guide*.

Herefordshire CAMRA reserves the right of admission at all times. Beer on the Wye is always a trouble-free event, but should any person(s) misbehave, such that they cause a problem for staff or affect the enjoyment of others, then they will be requested to leave by our professional security personnel.



FESTIVAL CHARITY

We are delighted to announce that the chosen charity for 2014 is once again *Hope Support Services* based in Ross-on-Wye, who support children dealing with a family member diagnosed with a potentially life-threatening illnesses.

GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL.....

Hereford station is only a 15-20 minute stroll from the festival site. There are regular direct train services (hourly or better) between Hereford and Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Worcester, Malvern, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Manchester, as well as South Wales.

Limited car-parking is available on-site, and a small charge is levied. Any parties wishing to come to the festival with mini-buses or coach are very welcome, but are asked to contact us in advance so that we can allocate a suitable parking slot for your vehicle.



WHY NOT MAKE A WEEKEND OF IT?

Rather than worry about getting home on a last train or bus, why not stay in the Festival Village?

Located immediately adjacent to the festival site, the Festival Village is run by Hereford *Rowing Club* (HRC) and offers camping and trailer pitches. Facilities include round-the-clock use of modern and dedicated toilet and showers, and a hot breakfast service on-site from 9am on the Saturday and Sunday mornings. Alternatively, city centre venues (cafes, shops etc) are only a 10 minute walk away.

Pre-booking of pitches is ESSENTIAL. Booking for all camping accommodation is via the HRC and is PREFERRED by e-mail, or alternatively via 07813 331456.

NEED TO KNOW MORE?

For more information on Beer on the Wye, then please go on-line at www.herefordcamra.org.uk and click on the festival link. Alternatively, why not look at our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BeerOnTheWye

To contact us about the festival please use the e-mail link on the website or ring Andrew Pearson on 07581 386280.

MAKE IT YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER

As a branch Hereford CAMRA now has over 450 members. It may seem hard to comprehend that with so many members our Beer on the Wye Festival finds it difficult to find enough volunteers to cover all of the weekend vacancies.

There are no limits to how few or how many hours you work. We need as much help as we can get and, even if you only volunteer for one, five-hour shift, it could give a valuable break to a volunteer who may have been working all week and may really appreciate a sit down and time to

Towards the end of a perfect day on the river bank

eat a proper meal. Not all our volunteers are retired or unemployed. Many give up their hard earned holiday time from work or time they could be spending with their own families and loved ones.

There are a variety of jobs - all essential to the running of a festival, and we can accommodate those who cannot stand for long periods, those who do not want to have direct contact with the public and those that want to try a number of different roles.

- There's a lot to be gained by volunteering:
- Valuable work experience.
- Beer tokens.
- Learn new skills.
- Staff T- shirt (only available to volunteers).
- Free entry to the beer festival.
- A great opportunity to make new friends.
- Fantastic opportunity to learn more about beer and cider.
- A place on the staff thank you trip (a different destination every year).
- A chance to become part of a team with a shared interest in the promotion of real ales, ciders, CAMRA aims and a general passion to support our great pub heritage.

Though much preferred, it is not absolutely essential for you to be a CAMRA member to work at the festival and we do prefer you to be over 18.

Please do come and join us. Don't let this major showcase of Herefordshire beers, ciders and perries become a thing of the past!

Beer on the Wye X is an event organised and run by HEREFORDSHIRE CAMRA.

BREW ON

Now that the brewery is at last operational, Nick and Val Comley have found that, with their other work commitments, they are unable to devote sufficient time to brewing. They are now planning to relinquish the lease on the brewery. An open day has been held, and a number of potential operators are believed to be developing plans.

JONES THE BREWER

Brewing is now twice per week, from the four established beers (Abigail's Party, Dennis Hopper, Wheat Stone Bridge, and Malt Python). All of these beers are now also available in bottles.

There's a new brew that's in the advance stages of development and testing - Jean Paul Citra (the ale of reason) - an IPA at a hefty 6.6% ABV.

LEDBURY

The beers are being well received locally and can now regularly be found in 10 outlets. Sales volumes are still going up month-on-month leaving very little spare capacity for one-off sales. Brewing on the five-barrel plant takes place twice per week to produce the three core beers and the occasional other brew. such as Phoenix, which is brewed every other month. At 4.5% ABV this is described as a light and easy to drink molca/porter. It is brewed with Phoenix hops from the farm of Richard and Ali Capper in Suckley providing spice, molasses and chocolate flavours.

GOLDEN VALLEY BREWERY

A new brewery is operating on the Old Forge Industrial Estate at Peterchurch. Although occupying the site of the now-defunct Golden Valley Ales, it has no connection with that former business, and is using entirely new equipment.

Brewer Dave Randell is currently producing two beers: DPA (Dore Pale Ale) at 3.9% ABV, plus a best bitter, Knock 'em Back at 4.4% ABV. Both have been on sale at the Pandy Inn, Dorstone and the DPA was at the recent beer festival held at the Bridge Inn, Kentchurch.

As the brewery itself is not always staffed, enquiries should be made to: Golden Valley Brewery, Unit 7, Three Elms Trading Estate, Hereford, HR4 9PU. Telephone: 07828 935675

MAYFIELDS

The renovation and redesign of the Brewery, including the installation of new floors, is now complete. This has resulted in a new cold room and re-siting of the bottle-conditioning room and fermenters.

Demand for the bottled-conditioned beers continues to increase with 1,500 currently being produced per week. Rye Ale is now available in bottle. The range of permanent cask beers has been reduced to three: Auntie Myrtle's, Priory Pale Ale and Copper Fox, thus allowing more capacity for brewing seasonal beers.

Summer Hop, a pale ale at 4.1% ABV, is this season's offering, produced using Citra and Pacific Jade hops.

The monthly cask draw operated by the brewery is proving popular - with the Nags Head at Peterchurch; Salutation at Weobley and King's Head at Docklow winning in March, April and May respectively.

MULBERRY DUCK

Progress for Mulberry Duck is looking good, with summer trade picking up nicely. The beer has been at the Yarkhill *Field to Fork Festival*, and will shortly be at the Railway Inn beer festival.

Closer to home, Mulberry Duck can be found at the Golden Cross, Sutton-St Nicholas; the Bells at Almeley; the Red Lion Bredwardine; and the Salutation Inn Weobley plus many other pubs on an infrequent basis.

A special called Wellingtons Victory will also be on sale around the country on the *Battleproms* concert tour, with.

PUBLISHER

Jon Saxon, the Shropshire-based publisher who was brewing as Publisher Ales at Stoke Edith has decided to "take a year out of brewing". Therefore, there is now no brewing activity at the site set up by Saxon City Ales.

SIMPSONS

The brewery now has a small bottling facility and several dozen of each of the four mainstream beers have been bottled. These should be ready for sale by mid-June and will initially be used to support tasting stalls at country shows.

A special birthday beer was produced at the

beginning of April to mark the 40th birthday of Craig Simpson, who was also celebrating five years running the Swan on Hereford's Aylestone Hill. The commemorative pump clip design exploited the ABV of 4.0%, as well as the English-grown Admiral hops used in the making of the easy-quaffing pale ale. It was exclusively available in the Swan which been given a special dispensation to sell a non-Marston's beer.

WOBBLY

In addition to Wobbly Welder, Wobbly Wife, and Wobbly Chocolate Porter, a new beer, Wobbly Gold - a 3.8% traditional lightly-hopped golden brown bitter - is now in full production. The beers are brewed 2-3 times a week to meet demand.

A new office has been completed to house the marketing/admin and a new roof is in process of being constructed for the brewery. There are plans for a laboratory; a retail outlet and a new cask-conditioning room.

Wobbly beers have been selling well in several Hereford city outlets - the Lads Club, Nell Gwynne, City Sports Club and around the county at the Volunteer, Marden; Cross Keys, Withington; Wheelwrights, Pencombe; Sun, Leintwardine and Live & Let Live, Bringsty Common, amongst others.

There is now a direct line to the Wobbly Brewery: (01432) 355496.

WYE VALLEY

Wye Valley Brewery is sponsoring *Ludlow Shakespeare and Arts Festival 2014*, which opened as this Hopvine went to press, centred on eleven performances of Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.

Wye Valley has launched a limited-edition pump clip to celebrate its involvement with the festival, Dorothy Goodbody's Festival Gold will replacing the Golden Ale pump clip in participating pubs.

Dorothy Goodbody's Golden Ale has been awarded Silver medal at the SIBA (*Society of*

Independent Brewers) Wales and West Region Beer Competition, in the bottled bitter (up to 4.9% ABV) class.

HOBSONS

Hobsons are sponsoring the Festival Bus between the Ludlow Green Festival and Sun Inn Beer & Music Festival on Sunday 24th August 2014. The *Lugg Valley Travel* buses will leave Ludlow Assembly Rooms at 1230 and then hourly until 1930, except 1630. Return buses run from 1305 through until 2005, except 1705 (when the driver takes a break). Day ticket £5; concessionary passes accepted. This allows you to stop off at Wigmore (Castle Inn) or Bromfield (Clive) too. Comments Nick Davis of Hobson's Brewery:

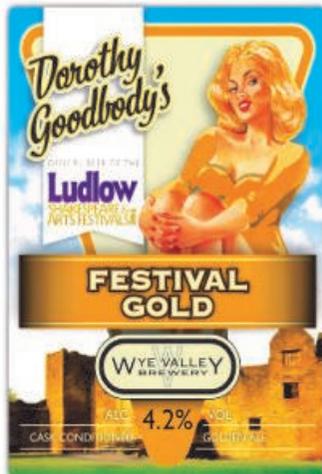
"We are supporting this venture again because it reduces the number of cars on the road, and now brings about 15% of all visitors to the Beer Festival. More importantly, it makes for a great day as you can access two festivals in one afternoon!"

LUDLOW

The brewery is also pursuing its green policy by installing a 9,500 litre water harvester to the roof; this is designed to service the brewery's toilets. The big news, however, is that Gary is currently trialling a new low gravity blonde ale for the summer season and details will be unwrapped shortly.

Ludlow brewery is the venue for a wide range of Ludlow Fringe Festival events in 2014 including Brewery Comedy Nights (TV comedians Carl Donnelly, Andrew Lawrence and Christian Reilly) and Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors. There's more...music nights including Andy Kershaw's Brewery Hop. For a full list of events see www.ludlowfringe.co.uk. Gary Walters, Head Brewer, commented:

"Its a short hop on the train from Hereford or Leominster to Ludlow for a great night out with us; we are a next to the railway station and the atmosphere here at festival time is electric."





For Sale: the majestic Rhydspence Inn

Change is afoot again at the **Rhydspence Inn** at Whitney-on-Wye. Following the regrettable departure of the last leaseholders (sadly owing to health reasons), the impressive 16th Century ex-drovers' inn is on the market with local selling agent, *Sidney Phillips* for £425,000 freehold. Located plumb on the England-Wales border, the landmark property is only a book's throw from fashionable Hay-on-Wye and must represent a once-in-a-generation business opportunity. With seven en-suite letting rooms, two restaurants and bags of period charm, it benefits from being in an area where good quality accommodation is considered to be at a premium. According to the sales particulars it is currently trading as an "upmarket B & B", so probably no real beer on tap for the time being.

Steve and Gaye Dunn have returned from Portugal to Kington and have taken over the **Swan Inn**. Currently the pub is only open during the day with the exception of Friday and Saturday evenings when Jakes Bistro is open. Local drinkers may remember them from their days at the Old Tavern, when it was the tap for the Dunn-Plowman brewery.

Many of Kington's pubs will be holding events in conjunction with the annual Kington Festival, which this year has the theme of "The Summer of 1914". *Foxwhelp Morris* will hold a dance-out at the **Oxford Arms** on Tuesday 17th June, which will also run a Beer Festival between Thursday 19th and Tuesday 24th June, with live music from *Ady Miles* (Friday) and *Point Zero* (Saturday). They will also hold a similar Beer and Cider festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Both festivals will showcase a dozen or so locally-produced ales, perries and ciders. The Oxford is open all day Fri, Sat & Sun during the summer months.

At the beginning of June came the shock news that Gary Seymour had left the **Sun Inn** at Leintwardine. As landlord, he was one of the key people instrumental in helping to save the pub, after veteran landlady of 74 years, Flossie Lane, died back in June 2009. As landlord for the past four years, he has successfully steered a steady course at the Grade-II-listed treasure, helping to establish the pub whilst still preserving its unique historic legacy. In 2011, it was voted Herefordshire CAMRA *Pub of the Year*. Talking to the *Hopvine*, Gary wanted to thank both his customers and Herefordshire CAMRA for supporting him and the Sun Inn, and we understand that there are plans to have a leaving party. By the time this *Hopvine* hits the streets a new landlord and landlady team should be in place. Gary, in the meantime, can now be found pulling pints at the Church Inn in Ludlow.

Meanwhile travel publisher and leading environmentalist Alastair Sawday has honoured the pub in its latest edition of "Pubs & Inns of England & Wales" with an Authentic Pub Award, describing it as "A super-friendly real ale community pub with short menus, a long history and 2 front-parlour bars. Raise your glass to a timeless gem!"

Sawdays' guide however inexcusably gives the address for the Sun Inn as Shropshire, which may be reflected in the welcome the Editor, David Hancock, receives if he visits HEREFORDSHIRE to present the award.

Also in Leintwardine, *Lionstock* - held over the May Bank Holiday weekend - proved a successful blend of al fresco food and music. This is the second year this mini-music festival has taken place on the banks of the River Teme in the gardens of the **Lion**. Featuring local bands on the Saturday, with a *Battle of the Bands* held the following day, it raised

PRINCE'S PROGRESS

The Prince of Wales in Ledbury has been voted *CAMRA Marches Area Pub of the Year 2014* in a very close-fought second stage of the *West Midlands Pub of the Year* competition. The very worthy opposition were the Mytton Arms in Habberley and the Old Fighting Cocks in Oakengates which represented the two CAMRA branches in Shropshire.

The Prince now goes forward to the final regional judging.

over £5500 for the charities, *St Michael's Hospice* and *Leintwardine Youth Group*.

It has become a family affair at the **Mortimer's Cross Inn**, when new owners moved in at the end of March. Annaly Goodwin assisted by daughters Katie and Becky, look after bars, kitchen and accommodation, while husband Glyn balances a part-time support role with a heavy agricultural schedule. Local products predominate, with ales currently from Wye Valley and Hobson's, though more are planned as demand increases. Food is locally sourced, much of the meat coming from the Goodwin family farm in Yatton. There are two traditional bars - the largest with traditional oak panelling allows quiet relaxation, while the 'Locals' bar has a pool table and dart board. The garden is extensive and welcoming for families, and includes a petanque piste. Being beside the A4110 and near to the River Lugg, the pub caters for walkers and drivers, opening from midday until 11ish. Cooked meals are available lunchtimes and evenings, with the accent on freshness.

The **Boot Inn**, Orleton, is holding its fifth Beer Festival over the weekend of 25-27 July celebrating a wide selection of Shropshire local real ales and ciders. There will be live music and children's entertainment in the beer gardens, hot food will also be available.

Rapidly establishing itself as one of Ludlow's leading venues, the **Bennetts End** in Knowbury held its first *Beer and Bands Festival* during May. Despite the pub's popularity and reputation for quality, owners Matt Toomey, Craig Powers and Kelvin Woodfield were astounded as around 600 people filled the pub grounds for an afternoon and evening of top local bands complimented by a selection of guest ales and ciders. A BBQ and Pig Roast was provided by Ludlow butcher Andrew Francis.

The charity fire-walk at the **Stockton Cross** proved a fantastic evening, raising £1891.84 for *Little Heroes Cancer Trust* - a charity for children with cancer. More than a dozen brave (or crazy) 'Volunteers' made the walk (*Hmm - trot?-Ed*) across the red-hot coals to become Heroes in their own right. Expressing his gratitude to the participants, the team from the firewalk charity, the volunteer helpers and Lord and Lady Cayley (who allowed one of their fields to be used as a car park) landlord George Bedford said that the

event had "made the pub very, very proud!" The next major event in their calendar is the First Annual Beer Festival to be held 20th-22nd June.

Pig Daze and the *Fabulous Bordello's* will be part of the line-up at the annual beer festival at the **Rose & Crown**, just a few miles away in Burford. This festival coincides with Hereford CAMRA's own *Beer on the Wye*, but will provide a great opportunity for ale and music lovers in the north of

25 YEARS AT THE NEW INN



In 1984, when Jane Melvin took over the licence of the imposing New Inn at Pembridge, it was - like so many Herefordshire pubs - owned by Whitbread and offered just one of their cask beers. In the ensuing thirty years, the New Inn has mirrored events in the industry. In the early 90's, Whitbread started the process that culminated in their exit from both pubs and brewing. Thus they offered the freehold of the 14th century inn to Jane at an unrealistically high price, and then put it up for auction. With help from her father, Jane was able to buy it for half the price originally asked.

Forward thirty years, and Jane is still there, offering three regularly changing beers from breweries large and small, local and more distant - most of which didn't exist back in 1984.

Jane acknowledges the support of villagers in keeping the business going, but the pub's position on the *Black & White Trail* ensures that she gets a good number of tourists as well.

Jane has also been supported throughout the thirty years by her sister, Rosie, in her role of cook.

the county who may not be able to make the trip to Hereford. At least 20 real ales and ciders – most from local brewers and producers will be on tap throughout the weekend (11th-13th July) with an impressive six bands on Saturday and a further five on Sunday – details at: www.whites.cc.

The **Wheatsheaf** at Fromes Hill has reopened following its unexpected closure in December.

Now in the hands of local couple, Kevin and Lorraine Panter, it opens lunchtime and evenings on weekdays and all day at the weekend. Meals, served Tuesday to Sunday, include an OAP special on Wednesdays; a carvery on Sundays (until 4.30) and feature a *Curry of the Week*. Takeaway meals are also available. Currently, two Wye Valley beers are served - Bitter plus HPA or Butty Bach.

The Boot Inn
at Orleton

**Our 5th
Real Ale
&
Cider Festival**

Friday 25th July
6.00pm - 11.30pm

Saturday 26th July
12.00noon - 11.30pm

Sunday 27th July
12.00noon - 11.00pm

20+ Real Ales
15+ Ciders

For more information
contact The Boot Inn
on 01568 780228

Live Music from
Avenue Nine - The Endings - Hot Climate - Sultana Brothers - Steady Ed & The Boogie Men
and many more

3 days of entertainment for the whole family and a bouncy castle for the kids.
There will be a variety of hot food available for you to enjoy with your drink.

It was a double blow for locals on April 29th when Gill Kirby put the towels on for the last time. For not only was she calling 'time' after over a quarter of a century as landlady at the **Cotterell Arms** in Hereford, but the traditional pub on the corner of Cotterell Street and Windsor Street was to close, allegedly having been bought for redevelopment by a local builder. The Cotterell was well known as a 'Darts Centre', having produced Division One winners in both the men's and women's league. Since the construction of the skittle alley around five years ago, the pub has hosted some 30 tournaments attracting competitors from far afield.

In recognition of this, Gill decided to mark her departure from the Cotterell with one final farewell darts competition. Supporting the event were darts professional Jim Williams, and Terry Jenkins' son, Graham, and with a £200 cash prize for the winner there was plenty of interest from the county's best players. The pub has supported the Childrens' Acorns Hospice for over 20 years and there was a collection for the charity on the evening.

Gill had been a tenant at the Cotterell since 1988 running it with her husband Noel, until he passed away suddenly twelve months ago.

The **Travellers Rest** in Stretton Sugwas Hereford re-opened last November after an extensive and sympathetic renovation. New owners, Andie and Marie Cox, began by stripping back the ceilings to expose some truly beautiful Victorian features, including the original root trusses and beams dating from the 1860's plus an original wall. The bar is open Friday & Saturday evening 7pm -11 pm though the Coffee bar and Restaurant open Monday - Friday 10:30am -2:30pm

Plans for a new play area outside have been sidelined in favour of a planning application for a terrace of five houses, which will result in the loss of the skittle alley.

Real ale has returned to the **Seven Stars** in Clehonger after a long absence. Extension and refurbishment work is currently in progress - although its business as usual - and we expect to be able to be able to feature the pub in the autumn *Hopvine*.

Held over the Late Spring Bank holiday the sixth '*Beer on the Monnow*' festival at the **Bridge Inn** at Kentchurch was a sell-out. Despite poor weather Friday night proved a good start. *Kin-*

Lin Goodwin

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Lin Goodwin. Lin and her husband Frank owned and ran The Three Horseshoes Inn at Norton Canon for many years.

Lin was born at Mansell Lacy on 3rd November 1942. She had a number of secretarial jobs before turning her attentions to cooking, working in a number of pubs, hotels and houses. She married Frank Goodwin in 1971 at St Nicholas Church in Norton Canon, and they had two daughters, Becky and Cathy.

In 1980 they bought the Three Horse Shoes, which was then in a run-down state, and restored it to its former glory creating the welcoming hostelry that it is today. Lin used her culinary skills to cook bar meals whilst Frank developed his love of home-brewing to produce the ale for the pub.

Lin loved entertaining and was in her element sitting in the bar, chatting with her friends. She also had a passion for literature, art and theatre, which she attributed to her schooling at St Michael's in Hereford.

We extend our condolences to Frank and family.

strife played a creditable hour-and-a-half set and on this performance for their first gig, there should be many more to come. Saturday was WET including an "impromptu water feature in the marquee during the afternoon". Sunday, however was a storm in the opposite sense, with BBC playing a memorable 3 hour set - sadly missed by hosts, Nick and Andi Phillips "cos the bar was too busy!". They were not complaining too much the following day commenting "What a weekend, we sold out of everything - including coffee - and now get bank holiday Monday off!" The sixteen beers included Dorstone Pale Ale from the newly-formed Golden Valley Brewing.

Sadly Nick has informed the *Hopvine* that this was the last *Beer on the Monnow* festival so anyone wishing to take on the mantle, be warned he will be a hard act to follow!

BARONS CROSS RE-INVENTION RECOGNISED

Enthusiastic licensees breathe new life into Leominster pub



Sue Sedwell, Simon Crowther and Steve Griffiths and some freedom of supply. Steve is particularly proud of his cellar, and of his very recent award of *Cask Marque* accreditation.

Steve and Sue are also attempting to build up the pub's food business, offering traditional pub meals throughout the day, every day. These are served in the lounge at the front of the pub, which has a small "restaurant" area. To the side of the lounge is a diminutive snug, whilst to the rear is a large bar with pool table. Although rebuilt in the twentieth century, in brewers' half-timbered style, some of the original beams are evident inside.

Outside is a large car park and garden with children's play area. Beyond that is a campsite, which accommodates caravans, camper vans and tents, and features hot showers. There are good views across open countryside.

Baron's Cross Inn, Baron's Cross Road, Leominster, HR6 8RS Telephone (01568) 601037 Open 12-11.30 Meals available 12-9 daily Buses 406/491/493/495/496 stop nearby.

For many years the Baron's Cross Inn on the western outskirts of Leominster had enjoyed a fairly unremarkable, lacklustre existence. However, things started to improve with the previous tenant, who was enthusiastic about real ale. Then, in 2013, the tenancy was taken over by Steve Griffiths & Sue Sedwell, and they set about reinventing the pub.

Although constrained by the owning Pubco, Admiral Taverns, Steve started to create interest in real ales by holding tasting sessions for his regulars - what he calls his *Beer Advisory Group* - and involving them in the choice of beers on offer. Initially limited to national beers, the scope has now widened to include local beers as Steve has negotiated an additional handpump

Gloucester CAMRA Pub of the Year 2013

The Pelican Inn

4 St Mary's Street, Gloucester, GL1 2QR

Telephone
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The Pelican Inn serves Wye Valley's full range of ales in a delightful position between Gloucester Cathedral and Kingsholm Rugby Stadium. Open all day between 11 and midnight, you will find draught cider and perry as well as five Wye Valley ales - and sometimes a guest ale - served through a real ale python system and water-jacketed beer engines. Proudly we serve Real Ale, cider and twenty different types of rum.

WET, WET, WET

Growers are expecting to see adverse effects from the long wet winter.

Early summer is an anxious time for cider makers as they wait for flower buds to open and for blossom to set. This year it seems to have rained almost constantly through the winter, and now the rain has stopped and the orchard has begun to dry out, they wait to see if there will be any lasting damage to the trees. The last long wet spell was in the winter of 2000 and a substantial number of newly planted cider-apple trees were lost. During dormancy the trees survive quite well but if their roots are in water when they begin to grow again, they become starved of oxygen and nutrients and can suffer badly.

According to Met Office figures, 25cm of rain fell in the area during January and February, saturating the ground and raising the water table - a situation that has persisted due to the lack of any long dry spell. The problem is exacerbated by Herefordshire's heavy soil.

Rob Collins, an apple grower and horticultural contractor who helps run an apprenticeship scheme in cider growing at Herefordshire and Ludlow College's Holme Lacy Campus, explained "It is the fibrous roots that can't be seen by the naked eye that are affected the worst - These are the roots that do all the work and are the most vulnerable to being killed off."

"The problem is made worse by a bacterium which thrives in standing water and is attracted to tree roots, speeding up the dying process. Sometimes the roots on just one side of the tree are damaged and die and the tree then becomes unstable and keels over."

To add to this there were hardly any frosts over the winter months, not allowing the trees to go into a proper dormant period making them more susceptible to pests and disease.

Short Measure?

No price list on display?

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consumeradvice@herefordshire.gov.uk



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ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR TOM OLIVER

He tops his Pomona Award with CAMRA's Perry Championship

There was success for the county at CAMRA's National Cider and Perry Championships, where Herefordshire producers were honoured in both categories. Oliver's Cider from Ocle Pychard took the top spot in the Perry class improving on the bronze they took in 2011, while Ledbury based Wilce's Cider secured third place in the cider competition.

The awards are held in high regard by the cider-making community, and this is the twelfth year that they have been hosted by the Reading Beer Festival. The weekend event offers one of the largest ranges of real cider and perry, with over 150 different options from all over the country

and as such attracts many discerning cider/perry drinkers who are invited to take part in the judging process. Of Oliver's Perry the judges said "It was initially sweet with a dry aftertaste – a very balanced perry with great body"

Commenting on their success, Pete Wilce, Business Development Director of Wilce's Cider said "We are incredibly proud to have been recognised as a premium cider producer by CAMRA and winning Bronze in a nationwide competition and representing Herefordshire is a fantastic achievement."

CIDER

- 1st - Sheppys Cider, Medium
- 2nd - Dovesyke Cider, Ribble Valley Gold
- 3rd - Wilce's Cider, Cider

PERRY

- 1st - Oliver's Cider, Perry
- 2nd - Kent Cider Co, Perry
- 3rd - Raglan Cider Mill, Snowy Owl

COMPETITION ROUNDUP

BIG APPLE CIDER AND PERRY TRIALS

The annual Cider and Perry Trials were held in Putley Village Hall in May in conjunction with the Big Apple Blossomtime celebrations. This peer-judged event (by the entrants themselves) attracted 74 entrants .

The title of Champion Cider-maker went to a local rising star - Gryfter Cyder from Tupsley, Also enjoying success with a first and two seconds was the newly formed company Bartestree Cider who specialise in the production of single-varietal ciders and perries, Though only founded in September 2013 it is operated by Dave Matthews, with his wife Fiona, who ran the award-winning Seidr Dai cider company between 2000 and 2012, and besides editing CAMRA's Good Cider Guide, was honoured by CAMRA as one of their Top Cider Campaigners.

The 'Best in Show' award went to Nook's Yard dry cider from Northwich (Cheshire) - not an area renowned for cider! Troggi Seidr from Monmouthshire headed both the cider and perry sections in the bottle fermented/conditioned classes.

Results: www.bigapple.org.uk/cider-trials

HEREFORD INTERNATIONAL CIDER & PERRY COMPETITION

This year's International Cider & Perry Competition held in May at Hereford's Cider Museum registered a record number of 218 entries. Herefordshire's producers dominated several categories including Single Variety Cider and taking eight out of the nine honours in the draught Perry classes.

Olivers were once again prominent, taking four firsts and a second. Awards also went to Pips Cider, Ross-on-Wye Cider & Perry Co Ltd, Stuart Cooper, Once Upon A Tree Ltd, Bartestree Cider Co, Butford Organics, Newton Court Cider, and Westons

The overall winning cider was the Burrow Hill Cider from Martock in Somerset for their In-Bottle Fermented Cider

Results: www.cidermuseum.co.uk

ROYAL BATH AND WEST BRITISH CIDER CHAMPIONSHIP

The Royal Bath and West Show, which has been hosting competitive classes for cider for well over 100 years, has restyled their competition as "British Cider Championship", a title justified by the number of entries. In fact the entries

probably make it the biggest cider-only competition in the world.

However, Hereford producers were conspicuously absent from the winners lists. The Fruiterers' Cup - for the Champion British Cider - went to Bob Chaplin for Broadpool Cider, made in a garage just a few miles down the road from the showground. A medium cider from Blackmore Vale, produced by Alan Berry at Templecombe was the People's Choice.

GREAT LAKES CIDER & PERRY COMPETITION

Continuing their success in the USA, Warwickshire-based company Hogan's, which presses and ferments its drinks in Castlemorton, Malvern, secured the title "Best of Show - Highly Commended" for their Vintage Perry in the Traditional Perry category. The company also won a gold medal for its medium cider in the English cider category with the dry bringing home a Bronze.

That man Tom Oliver was in there again, winning Silver for Bittersweet Funk in the Wood-Aged Cider & Perry class.



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CIDER MUSIC

Broome Farm has announced its diary of charity events for the summer season, this year in support of HOPE and The Music Pool.

The Mid Summer Celebration on 20th & 21st June has live music guest beers and, of course, some interesting ciders!

Clementine Lovell and her company Pop-up Opera return to the barn on Sunday 13th July with Mozart's famous and much loved comedy *Così fan tutte*.

Finally the annual Cider Festival running from 29th to 31st August, follows its usual form; a Ceilidh on Friday with Chicken Shed Zeppelin.

Meet the Cider Makers on Saturday with live music including Compost Heap, Broome Cupboard Blues Band and Burnside Music. Sausage and Cheese Sunday including Farmers and Craft Market and live music from a swing band. Early booking is recommended.

Gwatkin's Cider are playing host to another of their fabulous Music and Cider festivals. Join them Down on the Farm between 25th-27th July when a whole assemblage of bands will provide music across the weekend. Headline tribute bands will be balanced by acoustic sets from local talent; all accompanied by some great local cider and ales.

There will be Music in the Park at Weston's Cider on 23rd August, with a chance to spend a lovely summer's afternoon enjoying cider and music from live bands. A bar and food will be available. £5.00 per ticket - contact 01531 660108

OTHER CIDER EVENTS

12th-16th August: Great British Beer Festival. See page 27. As in the last few years, Westons will have their own bar at this event.

Saturday/Sunday, 23rd/24th August. Black Mountains Festival, Talgarth, Powys: Marcher Apple Network will be in the Cattle Market on the Sunday, from 11am to 5pm. Display of early apples & identification of ripe early varieties. Tastings and fruit for sale.

Saturday-Monday, 23rd-25th August: Haverfordwest Annual Beer, Cider & Perry Festival, celebrating and supporting local breweries.

Friday to Sunday 12th /14th September. Ludlow Marches Food and Drink Festival: There is always a good selection of local cider makers and fruit juicers in attendance.

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SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL: THE RISE & RISE OF THE MICRO-PUB



That's your micro-lot for Margate - an old fisherman's hut converted into the tiny Harbour Arms

A quiet revolution, one that is seeing new free houses pop-up across the land, is now starting to build a real head of steam. This Hopvine gives you the low-down on what they're about and highlights a handful of that are within reasonable quaffing distance of Herefordshire.

It all started in Kent back way back in 2005 - at the Butchers Arms in Herne, near Canterbury to be precise. The Butchers Arms is a pub so small that it can only seat twelve punters (and only then at a stretch). And it doesn't pander to decadent luxuries such as toilets on the premises (but there are public loos nearby). Despite its size, it manages serve up to six beers straight from the barrel. Converted from an old butcher's shop (there's a clue in the name) it was a runaway success from the outset. Micro-pubs then sprouted like a rash along the nearby Thanet coast - from Whitstable to Ramsgate via the Harbour Arms at Margate, and all points in between. There are already over twelve such enterprises in Thanet alone. There quickly followed a spate of openings in

places as diverse as Hartlepool, Chesterfield and London - and latterly Hereford - where we have our very own star shining brightly in thee firmament, with the Beer in Hand on the city's Whitecross Road opened only last year. Today the concept of the micro-pub is marching out across the land.

It's very hard to pin-point a single unifying characteristic that tells you when you're in a micro-pub. It's fair to say they are (but not always) small, thus their name. They may have toilets on the premises (but not always), but they are nearly always converted from something else, typically from an old shop or office unit. They always strongly feature cask ales (with beer normally served straight from the barrel), and a few also sell real cider and perry, bottled beers, wine or soft drinks. Refreshingly, none of them seem to bother with the dismal over-marketed UK "lagers". Nor do they do food, other than perhaps a roll or a scotch egg. However, perhaps a defining feature they all appear to have in common is their immense popularity. People are voting with their feet and supporting these new enterprises.

The advent of the micro-pub is a breath of fresh air for so many towns and cities (including Hereford), where the big PubCos have had it their own way for too long, with their anti-competitive practices and sky-high rents keeping the small independent operators closed out of the pub market. Well, they haven't quite got it all stitched now. The last thing the big PubCos want is for new free houses to get onto "their patch" selling tasty local beers at prices cheaper per pint, but that is exactly the reality they are starting to face. More pub-goers now have a REAL and affordable pub-based alternative.

Here are five micro-pubs to try on your travels:

Beer In Hand, Eign Street, Hereford, HR4 0AP

Hereford's micro-pub, converted from an old launderette in 2013 and already very much on the city drinker's map. Refurbished to a high standard, a single long bar features an ingenious enclosed temperature-controlled beer stillage that enables up to 10 cask beers to be sold direct from the barrel at any time. Besides an excellent beer range, it has already developed a strong cider and perry following - with typically ten or more ciders

MICRO PUBS



and perries being available. Therefore, perhaps it shouldn't come as a surprise that Beer in Hand was awarded Herefordshire Cider Pub of the Year 2013 – not a bad start!

It has recently developed a food offering three days a week, with Burger Thursdays (from 12noon onwards); Friday fish & chips (5pm to 9pm) and Sunday lunches. Regular monthly events are a pub quiz (with pie and peas) on the first Wednesday;

live music on the second Saturday, and Jam Session on the last Tuesday.

Hours: 5-11 Mon; 4-11 Tue-Wed; 12-11 Thu-Sat; 11-10.30 Sun www.beerinand.co.uk

Cobblers, Church Street, Newent, Gloucestershire, GL18 1SA

Opened back in January 2013, this ex-craft shop was once upon a time a shoe-repair shop, thus its catchy name. With a tag line that describes it as "A Firkin Small Pub", the Cobblers prides itself on having no TV, no music, no fruit machines and absolutely no children on the premises, but it is dog-friendly. A range of six beers (some local, but the majority national brewers) are presented on a stillage and served straight from the cask. With café-style seating for around 20 in a pleasant room adorned with art on the walls, it also offers bottled beers, ciders and wine. It can also boast toilets on the premises, but doesn't do food. The pub is just along from the town's George Hotel.

Hours: Tue-Thu 5-9; Fri-Sun 4-9



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Cobblers, St John Street, Coleford, Gloucestershire, GL16 8AP

Further into Gloucestershire in Coleford (the same name gives it away) is a more recent sister operation of Cobblers in Newent, having opened in November 2013. Converted from an old carpet shop, it is centrally-positioned just down from the town's clock tower, and is conveniently located for a nearby cafe and chip shop. There are three separate, quite well-appointed small rooms, all offering seating levels more commensurate with a conventional pub operation, which is helpful as it can get busy at weekends. Otherwise, it has all the attributes of the Newent operation (see previous), except it also sells four real ciders, with plans to sell more. On a visit in early June, the six beers on the stillage included Breakspear, Abbot Ale, Old Speckled Hen, Hancocks HB and a house beer (brewed by Gloucestershire

brewer, Goughs) on sale at an (almost) reckless £2 a pint.

Hours: Sun-Thu 4-9; Fri 12-2, 4-10; Sat 12-10

Little Ale House, Worcester Road, Bromsgrove, B61 7DL

Heading off in the direction of Birmingham, is Bromsgrove's first and only micro-pub. With a large glass frontage, this modern shop conversion is brightly-lit inside and features bench seating. Eight beers are served from a stillage behind the bar, along with a cider and perry, plus bottled beers. It also sells tea, coffee as well as food in the shape of tasty samosas and scotch eggs. The beer range is quite adventurous and often features a beer from Malvern Hills Brewery.

Hours: Mon-Sat 12-10; Sun 12-6

Weavers Real Ale House, Comberton Hill, Kidderminster, DY10 1QH

The first and only micro-pub in the Wyre Forest is only 300 yards down the hill from Kidderminster railway station. This pub has a single well-decorated lounge with varied and comfortable furnishings; old posters and pictures on the walls, and a pleasantly appointed bar-back area. The numerous beers (usually mainly local) are served from hand pumps on the bar, plus it offers real cider, along with wine and soft drinks. Inexpensive pub snacks are always available and include pork pies and cobs with an interesting range of chutneys.

Hours: Closed Mon; 12-11 other days

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26th-28th September

16 Beers

Cider & Perry

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Crown Inn

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GOVERNMENT FINALLY ACTS TO REGULATE PUBCOs

After years of taking the Mickey, the PubCos are finally being called to account, with new government legislation in the pipeline.

Following hot on good news from the budget for the brewery and pub industry has come more good news. CAMRA has long campaigned to see formal regulation of the pub-owning companies - known as PubCos. Grossly indebted, their leaseholder publicans have for too long been held hostage to pay for their corporate greed and reckless pub-acquisition policies.

Having to contend with high rents; upward-only rent reviews; eye-wateringly high wholesale beer prices, and chronic underinvestment in their pubs is the landscape too many PubCo publicans have faced for far too long. And when these unsustainable businesses have finally been bled dry, the publicans are told to pack their bags and, more often or not, another PubCo pub closes. We've all seen them, they're everywhere - there can hardly be a town or city in the land that hasn't got at least one boarded-up PubCo pub gracing its streets. Even the

most financially illiterate person can see that the PubCo's so-called "business model" has (and remains) has closed pubs, and remains a major reason for pub closures in the UK.

Self-regulation Comedy Club

With 26 pubs still closing each week, it just can't be allowed to carry on, but "efforts" by the PubCos to get their own house in order via self-regulation (following earlier pressure from government) proved to be as laughable as similar "self-regulation" put in place by the bankers. The PubCos had been repeatedly warned they were in the last chance saloon, so now, and better late than never, the government has finally chosen to act decisively. Bravo!

In the Queen's speech on the 4th of June, the government formally announced proposals to bring forward legislation to put in place statutory regulation of the PubCos: a process that will oversee the contractual relationship between the PubCos and their leaseholder publicans. The legislation will be included in the *Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill* which is expected to be introduced by the end of June. It will put in place a new statutory code and an independent adjudicator will also be appointed. This will give many PubCo publicans a safety net against the worst bullying excesses of the PubCos - an avenue for them to seek redress for some of their legitimate contractual grievances. Moreover, PubCo publicans will in the future be able to request an 'open market value' rent assessment. Up to now the lack of transparency on the setting of pub rents by the PubCos has been a major issue with publicans.

CAMRA recognises this won't solve all the problems many PubCo publicans have overnight, but it is a positive move - and one very much in the right direction. CAMRA campaigned hard for the government to go further, and legislate for the option for PubCo publicans



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KINGTON WALKING FESTIVAL

Full details of the 2014 event (18th - 21st September) are now available at <http://kingtonwalks.org>

Walk Th7 includes a visit to a pub and a brewery, whilst a number of others (Th2, Fr2, Sa1, Sa4, Su3) just involve pubs.

to have a free-of-tie rent option, but that is not to be included in this legislation. Regardless, we still see this as a victory for our campaign.

Beer up to 60p a pint cheaper?

CAMRA National Chairman, Colin Valentine, is very upbeat in his assessment, when he went on record to say: “Publicans could see the [wholesale] price they pay for beer fall by up to 60p a pint if the new adjudicator forces the big PubCos to match open market prices. As a result we could see cheaper pub prices for customers, more investment and ultimately fewer pub closures.” He goes on to say that CAMRA will continue to campaign to see further reforms (including a free-of-tie rent option) being made available to PubCo publicans.

Mark Haslam, Campaign Officer for Herefordshire CAMRA was slightly more measured in his response, when he added: “I think we should be a little cautious in our expectations and not expect too much to happen too quickly. However, the introduction of a formal regulatory framework will definitely have a positive effect for many PubCo publicans in the longer term.

And that is good for us, as a little bit of what is good for the publican must also good for the pub-goer.”

Mark also thanks the many CAMRA members and others, who signed the *Great British Pub Scandal* petition. It had over 40,000 names on it when it was finally presented to the government ahead of the decision to legislate.

Last Chance saloon

Despite the big PubCos collective press releases saying they were “disappointed” with the decision to put in place statutory regulation, the fact their (already emaciated) share prices didn’t move down indicates they may have got off quite lightly. Undoubtedly, their efforts to lobby the politicians hard to avoid a free-of-tie rent option has worked, but for how much longer? The clever money in the pub industry is already suggesting this might ultimately prove to be merely a first legislative step, as those in power continue to scrutinise the PubCos behaviour. Could it be the PubCos are still be in the last chance saloon after all? Interesting times lie ahead.

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WHATPUB WEBSITE HONOURED

Malvern CAMRA member named joint Campaigner of the Year

Two software experts have been honoured for their work developing a national pubs database. Simon Wiseman and Tom Blakemore were named joint *Campaigners of the Year* for creating CAMRA's online pub guide *WhatPub* - the first time this title has been given jointly. Presenting the award at the CAMRA Members Weekend at Scarborough, Colin Valentine said: "They worked tirelessly for over two years until *WhatPub* was ready for members."

Tom, from Hertfordshire, has been active as a volunteer developer since he left CAMRA's staff four years ago, but Simon (pictured) has been on the project much longer, as he developed the database which now supports the website.

Following an abortive attempt to establish a national database in the early 2000's many CAMRA branches established their own pub database and spreadsheet systems, some of which were adopted by groups of adjoining branches. In our area it was Simon's West Mid-

lands Pub Database. When the *WhatPub* project was conceived it was recognised these regional systems would have to be embraced in the data gathering process, to avoid the "not invented here" syndrome. Simon's system was given the snappier title *Pubzilla* and has subsequently evolved into CAMRA'S main database.

As well as his technical skill, Simon, who lives just the other side of the Malvern Hills, is to be commended for his patience in dealing with the all the grumbles, queries and requests for even more features, that inevitably arise when developing a live system. He is still working on enhancements to *Pubzilla* even though he has a day job, and is Chairman of Worcester CAMRA.

35,000 Real Ale Pubs

If you have looked up a pub online you will have encountered one of the plethora of sites (see



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beerintheevening.com	ratebeer.com
bigreddirectory.com	thegoodpubguide.co.uk
enjoyyourmeal.co.uk	ukpubfinder.com
fancyapint.com	useyourlocal.com
inapub.co.uk	yelp.co.uk
misterwhat.co.uk	...and probably more!

box above), which probably offered almost no information about the pub, or was seriously obsolete (normally both). Only *Trip Advisor* would be reasonably certain to be up to date, but that is all about users' ratings, and doesn't give very much information about pub facilities and beers on offer.

Following an extensive two-year project by thousands of CAMRA volunteers, *WhatPub* currently features 47,000 pubs, over 35,000 of which serve real ale – making the site the most definitive online guide to real ale in the UK - and these numbers are still growing as coverage moves towards 100% of all pubs, all with photographs and full details of real ales, where served.

WhatPub, which has been designed to automatically optimise for use on laptops, tablets and mobile devices, offers over thirty different search fields ranging from dog-friendly pubs to those that offer newspapers or live music, making the results customisable to each person's individual preferences. Location maps and satnav references are given for all pubs.

WhatPub entries are written by local CAMRA members and no fees are taken from the pubs, so that the entries are totally independent and free of bias.

Keeping *WhatPub* Up To Date

Herefordshire CAMRA worked hard to get all our data up to date before the launch of *WhatPub* and are keen that it should stay that way. CAMRA Members, publicans and other pub users are urged to let us know of any changes or additional information, by clicking on the **Fill in the feedback form** link at the bottom of each pub description page.

Short Measure?

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LOCAL BEER & CIDER FESTIVALS

Tuesday 17th to Tuesday 24th June. Oxford Arms, Kington: 12 local ales plus ciders and perries.

Friday 27th to Sunday 29th June. Railway Inn, Dinmore (Fri eve, Sat all day, Sun afternoon) 12 beers mainly local, 7 local ciders plus perry.

Friday 11th to Sunday 13th July.

BEER ON THE WYE

Friday (eve) 11th to Sunday 13th July. Rose & Crown Burford: 4th annual beer festival; twenty local ales and ciders; food; live entertainment.

Friday 11th to Sunday 13th July. Beer on the Eign, Beer in Hand, Hereford.

Friday 11th to Sunday 27th July. Kings Fee Hereford; Mail Rooms, Ross-on-Wye; Dukes Head, Leominster. Up to 25 ciders, spread over 17 days.

Saturday 26th July. Bartestree Village Hall: Bartestree Cider & Beer Festival, 11am-11pm Live music, hot food.

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th July Boot Inn, Orleton: 5th Beer & Cider Festival. 20+ real ales and 15 ciders. Live music, family entertainment including bouncy castle. 01568 780228

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th July Titley Jazz Festival, The Rodd, Presteigne. 25 real ales, cider, perry

Friday 26th to Sunday 28th July Gwatkin Cider, Moorhampton Park Farm, Abbey Dore: *Down on the Farm* - Cider and Music Festival. 14 Different Ciders; Real Ale; BBQ; Live Music

Thursday 21st to Tuesday 26th August. Oxford Arms, Kington: A dozen locally produced real ales with some ciders and perries.

Friday 22nd to Monday 25th August. Barrels, Hereford: 27th Barrels Beer Festival. The Annual Party - Beer, Cider & Music 01432 274968

Sunday 24th August. Sun Inn, Leintwardine: 9th Annual Beer Festival. The infamous Sun Inn Annual Beer Festival starts mid-day, camping available. 01547 540705

Friday 29th to Sunday 31st August. Broome Farm: Saturday meet the cider-makers Sunday breakfast / brunch Live Music. Tickets on sale end June. Early booking advised.

Friday 29th to Sunday 31st August. Red Lion Stiffords Bridge: Beer cider & perry. Live music.

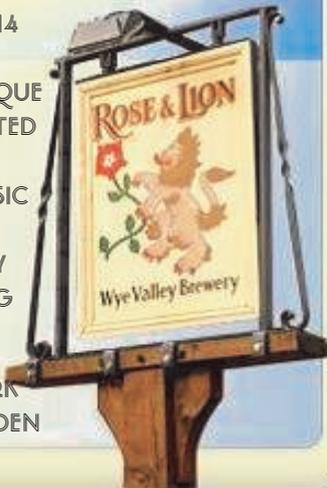
Friday 26th to Sunday 28th September. Crown, Dilwyn: 5th Beer & Cider Festival. 16+ real ales and 15 ciders. Live music, children's activities.

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CAMRA FESTIVALS COMING SOON



12th CAMRA Bromsgrove Beer Festival

Bromsgrove Rugby Football Club, Finstall Park, Bromsgrove: 10 min walk from railway station*

120 real ales and 50+ ciders and perries

Thursday 26th June 6-11pm (CAMRA members only); Friday 27th 12noon-11pm; Saturday 28th 11am-9pm

Food and a full range of other drinks. Camping available.

Details www.bromsgrovebeerfestival.org.uk

Beer on the Wye X

Herefordshire's own festival

Friday 11th - Sunday 13th July - for full details see page 3 and back cover

Details www.herefordcamra.org.uk/festival



Cotswold Beer Festival 2014

Postlip Tith Barn, near Winchcombe

Friday 18th July 2014, 7-11pm; Saturday 19th, 11.30am to 3pm, 7 to 11pm; Sunday Noon to 3pm

Note car parking is some distance from festival site. Special buses operating. Tickets on sale now.

Details www.gloucestershirecamra.org.uk/cbf



36th Great British Beer Festival, Olympia, London

The big one! Over 900 ales, ciders, perries beers and real lagers from the UK and around the world.

Tuesday 12th August 5-10.30pm; Wednesday-Friday 13th-15th noon-10.30pm; Saturday 16th 11am-7pm

Details: www.gbbf.org.uk



15th Worcester Beer, Cider & Perry Festival

The Racecourse, Pitchcroft. 10 mins from bus and railway stations (Foregate St)*

170+ beers and 100+ Ciders and Perries.

Thursday 7th August 5 -11pm; Friday 9th 12noon-11pm; Saturday 9th 12noon-10pm

Tickets on the door or in advance (strongly recommended for the Friday evening.) via the festival website.

Details www.worcesterbeerfest.org.uk



* Special evening rail fares available to Bromsgrove/Worcester (£3.50), or London Midland's 4 for 2 Groupsave can be used anytime, if travelling in a group of three or more.

Advance Notice: 1st Summer Ale & Steam Festival 16th & 17th August. Winchcombe and Toddington Stations (Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Railway)

All CAMRA festivals charge a glass deposit, refundable on exit (subject to conditions).

Discounted admission or beer tokens for CAMRA members at all CAMRA festivals.

A GRAND (NATIONAL) DAY-OUT

Grand National Day this year presented an opportunity to re-explore the finer pubs of Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury is only fifty miles from Hereford, so it was, back on Saturday 6th April, that a dozen Herefordshire stalwarts CAMRA set forth by train to visit some of the town's finer hostelries.

Arriving on-time at Shrewsbury's striking Grade-I-listed railway station was a helpful start. Our first pub, on a full and diverse itinerary, was to be the **Loggerheads** on Church Street. This wonderfully rickety 18th Century building is apparently claimed to be one of the world's oldest iron-framed buildings, and is deservedly listed as one of CAMRA's *Real Heritage* pubs. But it gets even better once you get inside.



First call: the Gents-only Bar at the Loggerheads fairer sex - a ban that lasted until 1975.

Four different beers from the Marston's range were on offer, but included the relatively rare Jennings Dark Mild (a regular for the pub). It was too soon time to move on to the next venue – thankfully a downhill trek this time.

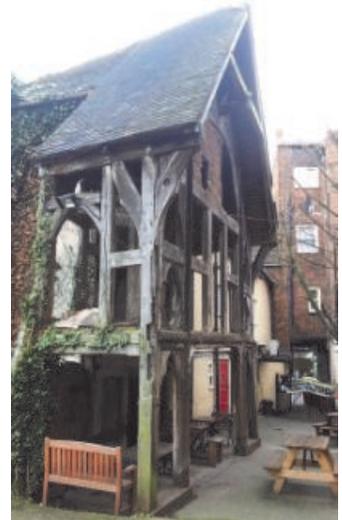
Having avoided a brief April shower, we were soon ensconced in the **Nag's Head** on Wyle Cop. Another historic pub, but this time with modern refurbished interior décor - characterised by bare brick walls and original timber floors. Despite having a large shop-style picture window to the front, it is a very cosy and convivial pub, with a single bar stretching out towards the back, all crammed with a charmingly mongrel collection of bar furniture and a heavily nicotine-stained ceiling (not something you see very often these days). At the rear of the pub is a fascinating secret - one that can be viewed - in the shape of a fully intact 14th Century Baronial Hall, part of which is now employed as the pub's smoking shelter! The pub itself was appended to the front of the hall centuries later. The five handpumps on the bar included Timothy Taylors Landlord and Wye Valley HPA, amongst some PubCo staples.

Having picked up and enjoyed reading a copy of "Ale Sabrina", Bridgnorth & Telford CAMRA's inaugural newsletter, it was time to push on. The next pub, in the southern district of Coleham, was a



Fairer sex not welcome in this bar

The Loggerheads boasts four bars: a cosy snug in the middle; a lounge with fascinating old pictures, button-back bench seats and grand mirrors to the right; a room to the rear, and public bar off a corridor on the left. All of them feature old fireplaces and original tiled floors, so uneven that they would give any self-righteous health and safety officer a fit of apoplexy. We opted for the public bar, a delightful time warp of a room, with narrow bench-seating, fine settles and old fireplace. Alarmingly, the timber walls appeared to be held in place by steel cross-members. However, more interesting is the warning sign that prohibits the use of the bar by the



An imposing smoking shelter at the Nag's Head

little bit of a hike and required a river crossing en route. Whilst crossing the Julian footbridge and trying in the process to work out which direction of e were heading, it was helpful to learn that Shrewsbury is built on an incised meander in the River Sever (GCSE Pass Notes students take note, please), thus it can be very confusing knowing what point of the compass you are following each time you cross the river.

Set in amongst a warren of narrow back-streets with their tightly-packed and neatly-maintained redbrick terraces houses, the detached and rendered **Prince of Wales** stands out like a sore thumb. This much-updated pub lacks the architectural merit of the previous pubs, but it can stand rightly proud as a well-appointed, family-friendly community pub out of the top draw. It boasts two main bars, one a traditional public, the other a pleasant enough lounge with a mix of wood-panelling and anaglypta wallpaper. A dining area off to the rear commands a view out across a full-size bowling green with the impressive Belle Vue Maltings beyond – the latter now sadly closed and converted into offices and twee flats.



Front and back - spot the difference



Superb historic exterior, Whitbread interior at the Three Fishes

We probably couldn't have chosen a more appropriate place to stop for lunch. The Prince of Wales is renowned for offering good honest food and value for money. All the main menu items were only £4.95, including old favourites such as steak and ale pie and faggots and mash. And the good value didn't stop there, with seven reasonably-priced beers (including from Salopian, Hobsons, Woods and Three Tuns breweries) all served in over-sized pint glasses. What more can you ask for?

Watered and fed, we left behind a handful of well-behaved Shrewsbury Town fans to catch their bus to the ground (another bargain at only £2.25 return, all organised from the pub each home game) and headed back into town – again crossing the river.

The **Three Fishes** is slap-bang in downtown medieval Shrewsbury. Located on Fish Street, the 15th Century half-timbered pub is on a narrow cobbled street in the shadow of two landmark churches, and so the itinerary resumed its theme of Merrie Olde England. The beautiful frontage and setting of this pub are doubtless the archetype imagined by generations of American and Japanese tourists, but once inside it is probably more 1980s than 1580s. The Three Fishes fits into a pub category that might best be described as brew-



ers' faux-Elizabethan. It may well be a wow for the tourists, but the old Whitbread sign on the outside betrays a reality of an opened-out interior; pub furniture straight from a 1980s brewery catalogue; sanitised original features, and brilliant over-whitened walls. It had lost its soul.

Where the Three Fishes redeems itself is with the beer offer and a very friendly and professional welcome. There was nothing ham about the staff, and not only were there six different beers on offer (all from local breweries, as diverse as Three Tuns, Salopian, Hobsons and Stonehouse of Oswestry), but it also sold THREE different real ciders, plus a perry. A first class line-up, and all served in excellent nick too. All was soon forgiven for the ex-Whitbread décor, as the beer and cider slipped down a treat.

To get to our next destination required passage along Grope Lane – it is alleged in this street's name was once suffixed in the distant past with a word that made the name a lot ruder! It was then a quick dash across the market square – where a music festival called the *Big Busk* was interrupted in mid-flow as our party furtively scurried across their makeshift performance area.

The **Coach & Horses** is a Victorian brick-built corner pub on the town's Swan Hill. First impressions are this is a very small one-bar pub, that is, until one discovers the cavernous dining and bar areas hidden away to the rear. The cramped front bar is an absolute gem, with a wood-panelled bar, original tiled floor and bare brick walls. This contrasts completely with the more industrial-sized bars to the rear. Between the



Galloping into the Coach & Horses



Beer and cider heaven!

two are some nice cosy alcoves to while away the time. Four of the five beers on offer were from local breweries, including (again) Stonehouse and two from Salopian, with the fifth a guest from a micro-brewery. It also sold Cheddar Valley Cider from Somerset and Leffe on draft.

Just along Swan Hill the **Admiral Benbow** is another pleasant Victorian pub. Not in the least put off by an initial whiff of chlorine as we entered [*reassuring to know it's cleaned thoroughly*. Ed], this genuine freehouse had a particularly welcoming feel about it. It may not boast some of the architectural merits of earlier pubs visited, but it felt absolutely *right* – just like putting on a comfortable pair of old trainers. This is clearly a community pub, and one that knows its beers and ciders. The beer offer was the most adventurous so far: six pumps, with regulars featuring Wye Valley, Salopian breweries and two from Titanic Brewery. Cider is from Westons, and it stocks a wide



Plasma TVs, sports bar and modern fittings - it must be CAMRA Pub of the Year!

ing. Located on a very busy riverside thoroughfare, close to the town's bus station, the Salopian is far from your typical CAMRA *Pub of the Year*. It looks very unassuming from outside, but with a notice board rightfully proclaiming its CAMRA pedigree, the beers inside don't disappoint. This is unashamedly a modernised pub, with very much an urban 'sports bar' feel about it, and a lively crowd to match on the day we visited. It isn't to everyone's taste, but it not only boasts eight hand-pumps, but also offers an extensive range of foreign bottled beers (including brews from Belgium

range of bottled Belgian beers. A sublime Titanic Chocolate & Vanilla Stout was so popular with our party that it was soon despatched and replaced by the equally-sublime Titanic Cappuccino Stout. Some of us thought we had gone to heaven – well, beer heaven at least! It was hard to leave.

Earlier on a number of our party had visited a turf accountant to wager a few pennies on the Grand National. We now needed to get to the next pub before the race started, and we didn't have much time.

The **Salopian Bar** has won the Shropshire CAMRA *Pub of the Year* competition on four occasions since 2008 alone. That's quite some go-

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Terrace photo and fire-detector check at the Woodman

and the USA), as well as real cider. And they don't just stock these beers, but clearly shift them in serious quantities too. What this pub might lack in so-called 'traditional' atmosphere is clearly made up for by the obvious enthusiasm for selling good beer and cider by the shedload. The party happily fought their way to and from the bar, then over a pint watched the Grand National unfold in its full glory on the pub's numerous wide-screen TVs. There was then time to retire with pints to the pavement outside and tear-up our betting slips.

Our penultimate pub visit required a trek north-

wards out to Coton Hill to find the imposing **Woodman Inn** on the town's Ellesmere Road. Perched on a busy road junction, this is a very interesting pub. A hybrid of brick and half-timbered building, it is a true architectural conundrum: a complete mismatch of ye olde tavern meets inter-war roadhouse. However, all is explained when you learn about the fire that partly destroyed the original 1800s building back in 1923. Rebuilt in 1925, it is now recovering admirably from a recent period of closure. The highlight of any visit is the oak -panelled lounge bar, complete with its log fires and original settles. Also eye-catching is the interior tiling and exquisite leaded windows. Looking at the pub from the outside, one could never start to imagine the richness of its interior. The beer and welcome wasn't too bad either!

As the party briefly paused for a photo outside the Woodman, we hoped that this wonderful pub's re-incarnation under new ownership will continue apace. It is simply too fine a pub to lose. Hopefully, by selling such an exciting range of four beers, which included on our visit guests from Pictish and Nottingham breweries, along with two local beers, its long term future will not be in doubt.

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Our final call had the advantage of being uphill from the station – meaning a downhill roll for our train back to Hereford. The **Dolphin Inn** is another pub that has been the subject of much recent TLC and enthusiasm by its new owners. The Dolphin has long a history for being a quirky and traditional pub. One licensee back the late 1980s was famous for having a pet rat (in a cage) on the bar, and a sign above the door warning; “No children under 21 allowed”. Those quirks may have long gone, but this is still a pub worth a visit. Today it achieves that very rare balance – between bar food and drink. It sells excellent and imaginative bar food, but without taking on the atmosphere of an everyday eatery. It is first and foremost a traditional two-bar pub, albeit stripped right back, and with a sun-trap decked area to the rear (where one can idly watch trains trundle past). However, this is traditional with a number of modern twists – such as a fire-hose beer-pump handle and bar snacks such as cheese and black pudding toasted rarebit – especially delicious before scarping for the train home. After sampling the excellent Joules beers at prices in the range of £2.60 to £2.90, it proved a real chal-

lenge to finally head back to the station.

Shrewsbury is only a little larger than Hereford, yet, from the evidence of this short excursion the town’s pubs seem to offer so much more than Hereford’s – not just in architectural terms, but in terms of the variety of beers, ciders and foreign beers. Somehow, Hereford feels like it is playing catch up, and is still a good few years behind. This is exactly what was found on a similar CAMRA trip to the town back in 2010 but hopefully things in Hereford may now start to change for the better. Undoubtedly, many city landlords are now getting more (and more interesting) beers, assisted by the SIBA Direct Delivery Scheme. However, what we still need in the city are more free houses. The advent of the city’s first micro-pub, the Beer in Hand, is a good start. We can only hope that the changes that come about from the impending regulation of the hapless PubCos will start to give our publicans a freer rein to do more things they (and their customers) want to do. Then, one day, perhaps people from Shrewsbury will come down to Hereford with an envious eye for our pubs.

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FERRY ACROSS THE WYE

By our Transport Correspondent

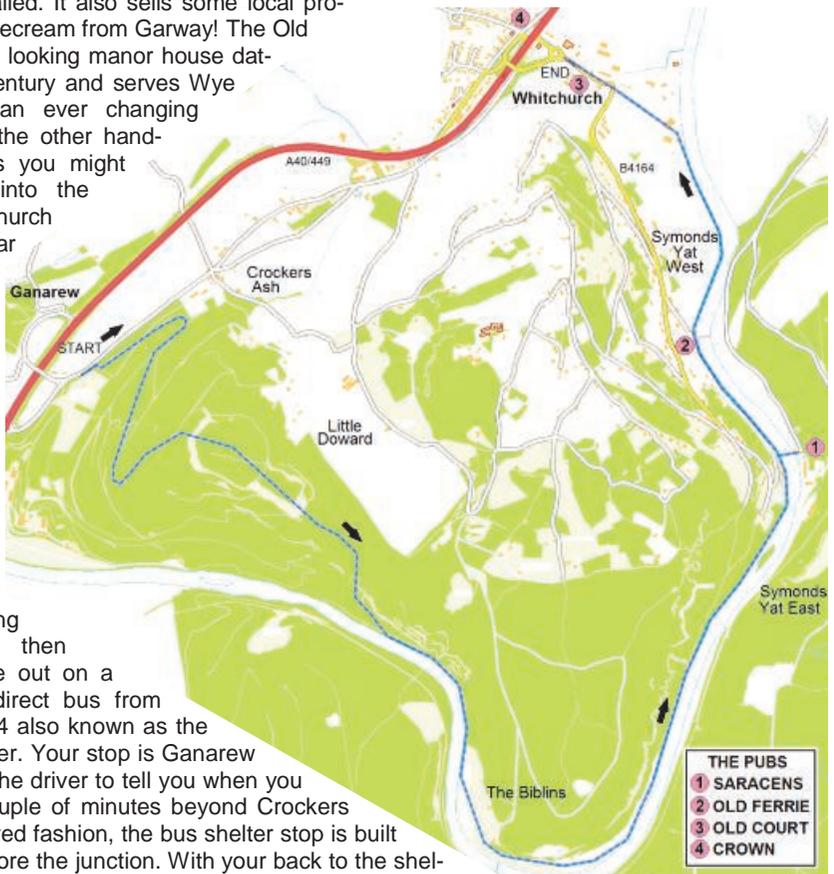
There are only two regular ferries remaining in the county. They're both located at Symond's Yat and in the hands of riverside hostelries; this has been the case for centuries, although the upstream one at Ye Old Ferrie Inn is currently out of service. This superb walk also features the sylvan Wye, an impressive site of the Iron Age Hillfort at Little Doward and passes by limestone quarries which once served a nearby riverside forge beneath the Yat. The view from Little Doward is one of

the best in the county; it illustrates why the conservation and habitat work of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is so important.

The walk happens to pass by two pubs, one hotel, and might also include a fourth hostelry if time permits. The Saracens Head at Symonds Yat East has served thirsty river folk for centuries, but now offers the many tourists with an ever changing selection of beers; there was one from Otley and others from local Gloucestershire breweries when we popped in. Ye Old Ferrie Inn at Symonds Yat West dates back to the 15th century and is popular with canoeists and walkers. It had Wye Valley HPA on the bar when we called. It also sells some local produce and Kelsmor icecream from Garway! The Old Court Hotel is a fine looking manor house dating from the 16th century and serves Wye Valley Bitter and an ever changing range of beers on the other hand-pull. If time permits you might also like to call into the Crown at Whitchurch which has a small bar and adjacent tea-room. At the bar is Sharp's Doom Bar and Wye Valley Butty Bach.

Ganarew

This is a linear walk from Ganarew to Whitchurch, about 5-6 miles and with a climb for the first mile, but note that it's downhill and along the riverside from then onwards! If you are out on a Sunday there's a direct bus from Hereford, number 34 also known as the Wye Valley Wanderer. Your stop is Ganarew and be sure to ask the driver to tell you when you get there; it is a couple of minutes beyond Crockers Ash! In time-honoured fashion, the bus shelter stop is built into the wall just before the junction. With your back to the shel-



ter, go right along the road to a car parking area and gate on the right which leads into Little Doward wood, owned by the Woodland Trust.

Little Doward

Follow the forestry track as it rises and bends right to climb more steeply. It then dips a little and at the junction keep left to climb again through magnificent mixed woodland. The track curves left and reaches an opening where you keep right to climb up between the ramparts of an Iron Age hillfort. Believe it or not, the track was carved out as a carriage route for a local notable, William Blakemore of Wyastone Leys in the 1820s. He then proceeded to build a 170 foot iron look out tower on this historic site; it stood for 100 years before demolition. The ramparts are impressive and can be seen quite clearly. The track descends between bracken and thistle to a junction of green routes. Go ahead to wander beneath hawthorns and then alongside a fence. The green swathe of the path then bends right to drop down as a track carved out between limestone walls.

Ignore the stile on the left but continue on the track as it weaves its way down the wooded hillside to the Wye. There are several sharp bends; ignore tracks off to the left or right. At one point a very large tree has fallen across the track but people have made a detour around it. Just beyond, the track bends right with lime kilns to your left, and then proceeds to a junction. Go left and this leads to a gate and the Wye Valley Walk. Continue ahead on the path as it weaves through woodland near to the Wye, through a camping field and ahead on a track.

Biblins

Pass by the Biblins suspension bridge on the right and then ahead along the main track by camping grounds. It rises through woodland. Once again ignore paths off to the left, but you might wish to detour onto a lesser riverside path which runs through lush and sometimes wet ground. If you stay on the main track it climbs to houses and a lane. Go right at the junction signposted to Symonds Yat West. This drops down at first (the riverside path enters here at steps), then levels as it passes by houses which hug the hillside. Look out for the ferry on the right to get to the Saracens Head across the river. If not visiting, continue ahead until you reach the rear

white walls of the Ferrie. There are steep steps down to the pub entrance so take care here.

Symonds Yat West

Go left to walk through the car parking area at Wye Canoes. There's a gap in the right hand far corner which leads to a well worn path through rough ground to a junction by the caravan park and amusement centre. However, keep ahead along the riverside and you soon reach Symonds Yat church where the path cuts left alongside the graveyard to a lane. This leads up to the main road, turn right for Whitchurch roundabout, and the bus stop back to Ross or Hereford. Those wishing to call into the Crown need to go left up to the overbridge and once across down to village which has an impressive clock tower, Woods village store and cafe (bus stop) and the Crown.

Factfile

Map: Explorer OL14 Wye Valley and Forest of Dean

Travel to Ganarew (Bus 34)

Sundays/Bank Holidays **Direct** travel to/from Hereford Railway station (plus Country and City Bus stations). First service 34 departs from the Railway Station at 1010, returning from Whitchurch at 1727

Later Sunday and other days travel via Ross (32) or Monmouth (36) on Stagecoach then on service 34 bus (Stagecoach or H&H; First on Sundays).

Some may prefer to park at Symonds Yat West and catch the bus from Whitchurch roundabout; it is a 5 minute bus ride from here to the start of the walk.

The ferry operates every day unless the river is in flood and there's a small charge per trip.

Return buses from Whitchurch to Ross and Hereford on Sundays are 1347, 1547 (change at Ross) and 1727 (direct). In the week there are regular buses which require a change at Ross

It is easy to download timetables from the website www.traveline.info.

Traveline: 'Phone 0871 200 22 33 for up to the minute bus times.

The Pubs

The Saracens Head, Ye Olde Ferrie Inn, Old Court Hotel are open all day. The Crown at Whitchurch is open from 5pm on Mondays and Tuesdays, from 2pm on Wednesdays and all day Thursday-Sundays.

Check www.whatpub.com for details.

THE BEER SELECT-O-PEDIA

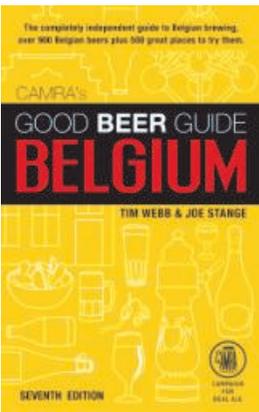
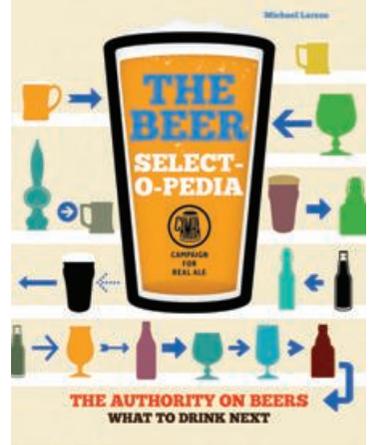
Michael Larson

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ISBN 978-1-85249-318-9; 215 x 180mm, Flexi-bound paperback, 224 pages
<https://shop.camra.org.uk>; Price £12.99



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Tim Webb & Joe Stange

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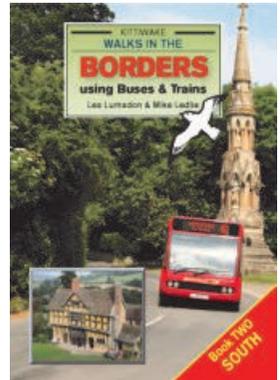
ISBN 978-1-85249-311-0; 210 x 135mm, paperback, 368 pages
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WALKS IN THE BORDERS using Buses & Trains (Book Two South)

Les Lumsdon & Mike Ledlie.

Our very own transport correspondent, Les Lumsdon, has penned another walking book 'Walks in the Borders-South' with co author Mike Ledlie. There are 20 walks in this neat publication and it comes as no surprise that most include a pub at the end. Examples include Pembridge to Eardisland in the Arrow Valley with four pubs on offer, or the Whitecroft to Parkend walk in the Forest of Dean which includes the legendary Rising Sun and the Dean Forest Railway. The companion book in the same format, covering the area from Church Stretton northwards to the Dee Estuary, is still available from Kittiwake.

ISBN 9781908748 18 8; A5, paperback, 40 pages
www.kittiwake-books.co.uk Price£4.95



Herefordshire CAMRA

What's on

Branch Meetings

Wednesday 25th June 8.00pm at the Butchers Arms, Woolhope.

Wednesday 30th July 8.00pm at the Majors Arms, Halmonds Frome.

Wednesday 27th August 8.00pm at the Seven Stars, Clehonger.

Beer Festival Meetings

Monday 30th June: 8pm at the Barrels, St Owen Street, Hereford. The final meeting before the festival!

Radnorshire Branch

Saturday 5th July. Rural pubs tour by mini-bus. Meet Outside The Cafe At Llandrindod Lake. Time tbc See *

Saturday 9th August. Llandrindod Wells pubs crawl. Meet 1-00pm at the Middleton Arms, Tremont St.

Saturday 6th September. Rural pubs tour by mini-bus. Meet Outside The Cafe At Llandrindod Lake. Time tbc See *

* Places limited please phone Dave Gill (01982) 570230 at least one week before-hand. Cost £10pp. E-Mail: Radcam-radave@outlook.com

Social Events

Saturday 21st June: Lunchtime/afternoon Social in Hereford starting at The Beer in Hand at 12:00

Saturday 9th August: Trip to Ledbury Real Ales and pubs in Ledbury by public transport.

Saturday 13th September: Trip by mini-bus to pubs in Powys (limited places so please book early)

Mark (markpeters.21@hotmail.co.uk)

If you know of any event that might be of interest please contact the editorial team (details on page 39). Deadline for next issue August 15th 2014

MORRIS DANCE EVENTS

Our local Morris sides have a busy programme in the coming months. Dance outs are planned at the following venues - normally involving pubs, beer or cider!

LEOMINSTER MORRIS

Wednesday 11 June: Olde Tavern, Kington, c.8.15pm

Wednesday 25 June: Cross Keys, Withington, c.8.15pm

Wednesday 9 July: Majors Arms, Halmonds Frome, c.8.15pm

Wednesday 23 July: Roebuck, Brimfield, c.8.15pm

Wednesday 6 August: Tram, Eardisley, c.8.15pm

Saturday 11 October: Big Apple Harvestime Festival.
Weston's Cider 11.30am, Gregg's Pit 12.30pm, Helens 3.00pm

FOXWHELP

Tuesday 17th June: Oxford Arms, Kington, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 24th June: Crown, Longtown, 7:30 pm

Saturday 28th June: Jenny Pipes' day of dance.

Tuesday 1st July: Crown, Woolhope, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 8th July: Angel, Gosmont, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 15th July: Bridge, Michaelchurch, 7:30 pm

Sunday 20th July: Harp, Old Radnor, Middy

Tuesday 22nd July: Crown, Dilwyn, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 29th July: Yew Tree, Preston on Wye, 7:30 pm

SILURIAN

7-14 July: Ledbury Poetry Festival- exact dancing dates to be confirmed closer to the time

11-13 July: Rose and Crown, Tenbury, - Beer Festival all weekend, exact details tbc closer to the time.

23-24 August: Saddleworth Rushcart and Morris Ring Meeting-40th anniversary of the Rushcart

12-14 September: Bromyard Folk Festival - see www.bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk

A Campaign of Two Halves

Fair deal on beer tax now!

Save Britain's Pubs!



Join CAMRA Today

Complete the Direct Debit form below and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription.

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit www.camra.org.uk/joinus or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details

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 Forename(s) _____
 Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____
 Address _____

 _____ Postcode _____
 Email address _____
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Single Membership	£23 <input type="checkbox"/>	£25 <input type="checkbox"/>
(UK & EU)		
Joint Membership	£28 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30 <input type="checkbox"/>
(Partner at the same address)		

For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201.

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association

I enclose a cheque for _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Applications will be processed within 21 days

Partner's Details (If Joint Membership)

Title _____ Surname _____
 Forename(s) _____
 Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

01/06

Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers

Enjoying Real Ale & Pubs

Join CAMRA today – www.camra.org.uk/joinus



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Date

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June 2014

Landlords! Talk directly to your target market. Herefordshire pub-goers and real ale drinkers.
Advertise in the *Hopvine*

The *Hopvine* is produced four times per year and, of the 4,000 copies of each issue, most are distributed to around 160 pubs in the county, where they may be read many times over by different customers. Others go to real ale pubs further afield, plus beer festivals etc.

Attractive discounts are available for entries in consecutive issues, and even bigger discounts for four issues paid in advance.

Completed ads can be accepted in .pdf .doc, .pub, and .jpg format, or just send us your information, and perhaps a logo, and we can compose the ad for you.

Current advertising rates (from)

Full page	£110
Half Page	£66
One third page	£44
Quarter page	£36

Do you miss issues of the *Hopvine* or live away from Herefordshire? You can get copies by post from David Powell, 18 Chatsworth Road, Hereford, HR4 9HZ. Send any number of stamped, self-addressed envelopes for A5 up to 100g OR 6 x 2nd class postage stamps for 4 copies (11 for 8 copies) OR cheque payable to Herefordshire CAMRA - £2.50 for 4 copies (£4.50 for 8 copies)

20  14

JULY 11th, 12th & 13th

HEREFORD
ROWING CLUB

GREYFRIARS
AVENUE

HEREFORD
HR4 0BE

BEER
on the
WYE

ADMISSION

FRIDAY: 2 - 5pm, £3
5 - 11pm, £5

SATURDAY: 12 - 5pm, £4
5 - 11pm, £5

SUNDAY: 12 - 5pm, £1

120+ REAL ALES & 120+ CIDERS & PERRIES

HOT FOOD

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(facilities on site)



QUICK ENTRY PACKAGES

Includes: Admission, Glass,
Programme and Beer Tokens
(get more tokens inside)

AFTERNOONS £10
EVENINGS £15

Glass and unused tokens
are refundable

www.herefordcamra.org.uk/festival

The organisers reserve the right to refuse admission - Accompanied children admitted until 6pm